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### Channel Islands fauna is not “British”

I would emphatically support Clive Simpson's contention in his note under this heading (*Ent. Rec.* **108**: 210), in which he sets out the case with unerring cogency. There is simply no escaping the fact that the Britannic area is a geographic and faunistic unity and that the Channel Islands are not part of it – however much this may offend patriotic susceptibilities in some quarters. Devotees of other orders than Lepidoptera are not entirely free of fallacy, but at least coleopterists have never, I think, been seriously tempted in that direction. Geography and politics are two different things and should not be confused: the one is natural and for practical purposes stable, the other artificial and liable to change. Suppose, for argument's sake, that Scotland were to secede from the UK in the near future – unlikely perhaps but not unthinkable. Would the “Channel Island moths are British” faction then act logically and reduce the “British List” accordingly? I doubt it.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

### A record of *Hipparchia semele* (L.) (Lep.: Satyrinae) for Grassholm Island, Wales

*Hipparchia semele* was observed on Grassholm Island (grid reference SR51) on 22.vii.1996 by Mr Graham Thompson, warden of Skokholm, who has kindly passed the record on to me. This raises the number of species observed on the island to six, the other being: *Pieris brassicae*, *P. rapae*\*, *Vanessa atalanta*\*, *Cynthia cardui* and *Aglais urticae*\*. Three of the records, marked with an asterisk, predate 1960. *C. cardui* has been recorded in 1996, on 26.vi. by Ian Bullock (from RSPB) at St. Davids amid the substantial migration of this butterfly throughout Britain. Unfortunately the record of *H. semele* has arrived too late to entered into *The butterflies of British and Irish offshore islands* (Gem Publishing Company, Wallingford, Oxon) to be published shortly.— R.L.H. DENNIS, 4 Fairfax Drive, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 6EY.